

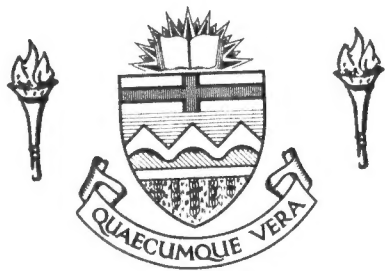
THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS

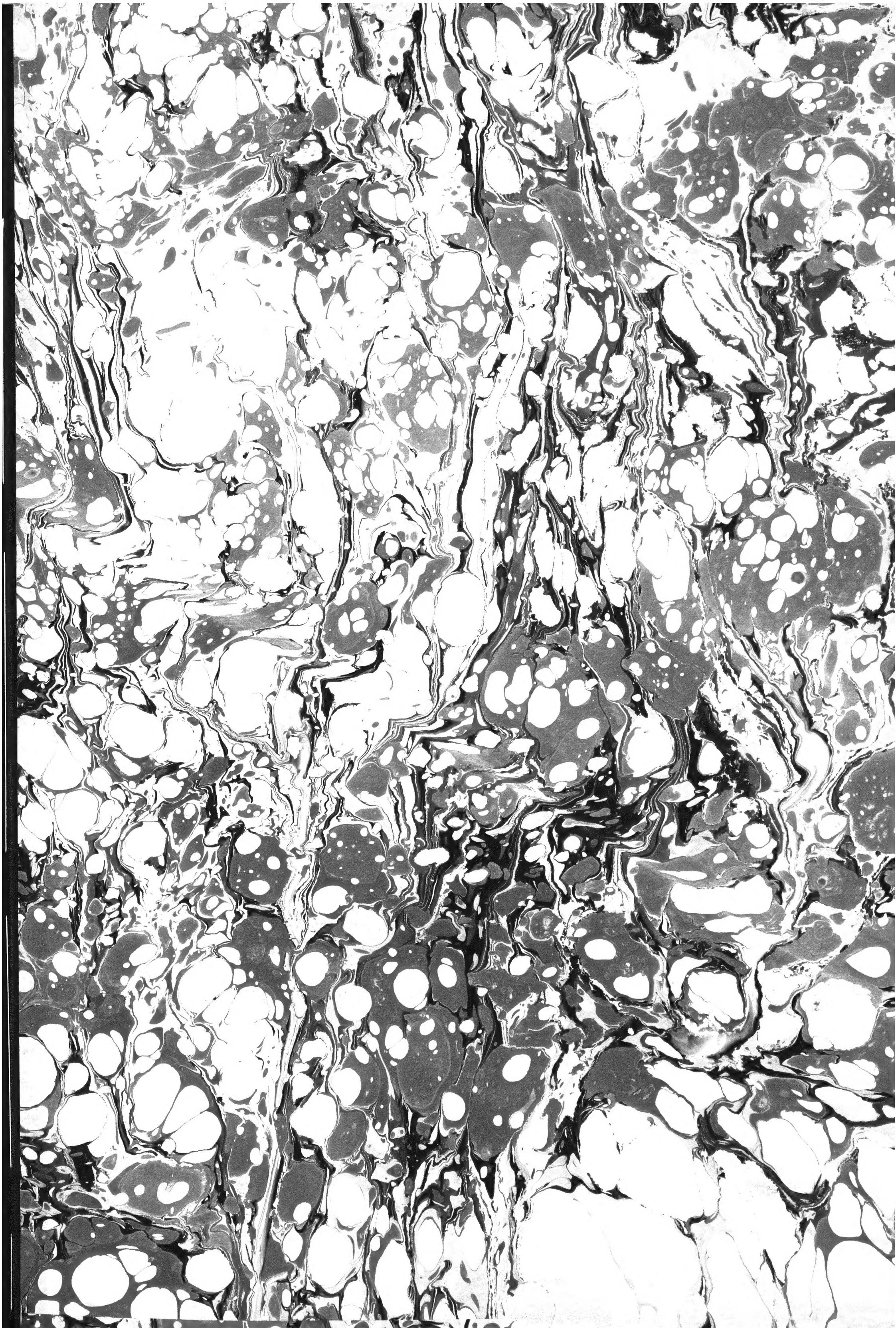
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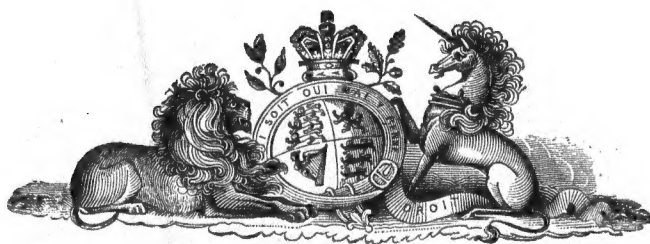
Illustrated War News

Nos. 1 TO 18, INCLUSIVE.

CONTAINING ALL THE ILLUSTRATIONS REFERRING TO THE

North-West Rebellion of 1885,

FROM ITS OUTBREAK TO THE RETURN AND
DISBANDING OF THE TROOPS.



PUBLISHED BY

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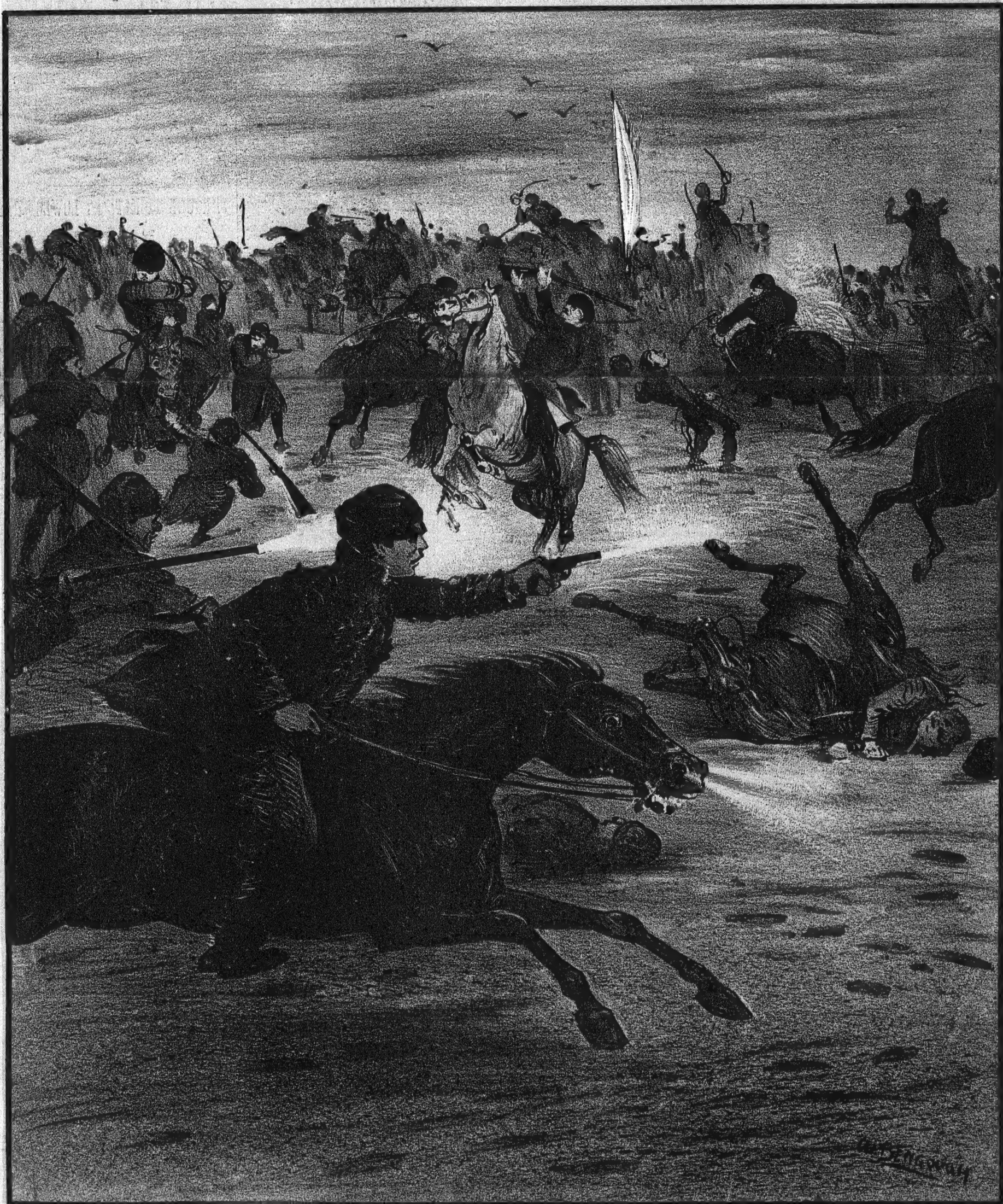
1885.

THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS

Vol. I, No. 1.]

TORONTO, APRIL 4TH, 1885.

[15C. PER COPY.]



PUBLISHED BY GRIP & CO.

TORONTO LITHOGRAPHING CO.

BATTLE OF DUCK LAKE, MARCH 27TH.

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THE Illustrated War News

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TORONTO, APRIL 4TH, 1885.

THE state of public feeling being such as to warrant the publication of a first-class illustrated journal, we have at considerable expense secured a large staff of artists, and in a remarkably short time have produced the results which we now submit. Considering the lack of time, our readers will admit that the "WAR NEWS" is the best effort ever made in Canada to supply the Canadian public with an illustrated newspaper.

It is the intention of the publishers, if they receive sufficient encouragement, to continue the issue of the "WAR NEWS" as a weekly, at least during the campaign.

Our special artist, accompanying the expedition, will send us, from time to time, sketches of events of interest en route and at the front.

OUR thanks are tendered to many friends who have assisted us in various ways in preparing the present issue. Amongst others we would specially mention Mrs. Grassett and Mr. H. E. Smallpiece (of the *World*). To the latter we are indebted for the authentic views of Battleford town and fort.

The lithographed portion of this issue was executed by the Toronto Lithographing Company, upon whom very much credit is reflected by the work, done, as it was, on short notice.

HUGH J. MACDONALD, son of Sir John Macdonald, is at the front as Lieutenant of No. 1 Company, 90th Winnipeg Battalion.

THE municipal councils of places which furnish troops will look after the necessities of families the heads of which have been called away on the expedition.

"THEY are the stuff," said an enthusiastic urchin, "Splendid fellows," "They will make fine soldiers," etc. Such exclamations from one who had seen some of the best soldiers in the world on parade. He was deeply impressed with the sturdy bearing of our militia.

THE NORTH-WEST REBELLION.

SUMMARY OF NEWS TO DATE.

The suppression of the rebellion among the half-breeds of the North-West Territories, which broke out last week, is likely to prove a serious, difficult and tedious task. The Indians are joining the half-breeds in large numbers and aggravating the trouble, so that large bodies of troops must go forward to quell the insurgents, and under the best circumstances the campaign is likely to continue all summer. When Indians don the war paint, it is next to impossible to reason with them, and it is not likely that even influential mediators like Archbishop Tache can bring about a peaceable solution of the difficulties. Force must meet force, and loyal Canadians, while regretting the outbreak, are hopeful and confident that the superior stratagem of our troops may give them the victory.

THE ORIGIN OF THE TROUBLE.

The present rebellion originated in the dissatisfaction of the half-breeds, who complain, as stated by the *Mail*, that while the Metis of Manitoba were given grants of 240 acres under the Act of 1870, their claims have been ignored; and they say with equal truth that the Government should at least give them free patents for the farms which they have been cultivating, and compensation for disturbance in cases where the Dominion surveyors may find it necessary to re-arrange the shape of their holdings, the old French form of delimitation being at variance with the modern system.

Sir John A. Macdonald, who was until recently Minister of the Interior, stated the cause of the dissatisfaction among the half-breeds in these words:—

"The half-breeds have had a great many claims, some of which are reasonable while others are not reasonable. The House knows that, when the settlement of matters in Manitoba was made, a large number of half-breeds were settled on the Assiniboine and Red River who had then little properties in possession under the direct sanction of the Hudson Bay Company. All those claims were recognized. Certain parcels of land were appropriated to satisfy them, and land scrip was issued to those half-breeds to the value of their holdings. The half-breeds scattered over the plains had no such rights from the Hudson Bay Company or anyone else. But they had heard that the half-breeds in the Red River had received certain money or money's worth, and they claimed that they had the same rights. Now among those half-breeds at Prince Albert, and on both banks of the Saskatchewan there are a number of half-breeds who received scrip for land on the Red River, and afterwards left Manitoba and went to the plains. They put in their demands for land scrip again, thinking that they would not be identified. A great many of them have been identified, and their claims refused. The half-breeds have been told that if they desire to be considered as Indians a most liberal reserve will be set apart for them. If they desire to be considered white men they can get 160 acres of land as homesteads. But they are not satisfied with that. They want to get land scrip for a large quantity of land, upwards of 200 acres, and then get their homesteads as well. Then there was some difficulty about the settlement of the plots which these half-breeds settled along the Saskatchewan. No man has been disturbed on these plots, and they have been told they will not be disturbed. Sometimes the half-breeds fought among themselves, because in the bending of the river one man's claim overlaps another's. There have been several reports from different officials for some years and a great many claims have been settled. Some are still unsettled. Finally, there is a commission which we hope will proceed in the spring, or as soon as possible, to settle the few claims that remain unadjusted."

THE LEADER OF THE REBELLION.

Louis Riel, who became notorious by the leadership of what is known as the "Red River Rebellion," in 1870, is at the head of the rebels in the present case. Riel, it is said, has been latterly living in Montana Territory teaching school, but was invited over by the half-breeds, who, months ago, planned their mode of attack.

Louis Riel is now about forty years old, a medium height, stout and dark complexioned, with dark brown hair and moustache. He has a well shaped and somewhat massive forehead, a Roman nose. His eyes are dark,

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On your regular trip to St. Thomas I got a truss for my
wife, which, as you expressed, was a frightful case. The
fact that your truss held rupture (beyond my expectations)
removed a gloom from our whole family. My wife often
referred to you as a public benefactor.
Tyrconnell, Ont., June 3, 1881. JONAS PAGE.

Four Very Bad Club Feet Cured.

Port Stanley, Ont., Jan. 26th, 1880.
I have two children, club footed both legs; had three
doctors attending them for two years. Feet were oper-
ated on twice under chloroform, but complete failures.
Under your mechanical treatment both are perfectly
straight—all done by such easy process with springs and
screws. You have the thanks of my whole family.
JOHN WISE.

CHAS. CLUTHE: March 3rd, 1884.
Dear Sir,—The club foot of my child which
you treated has been straightened in six
months. Nobody can now detect any deform-
ity in the foot. It was done without cut-
ting, pain or trouble.
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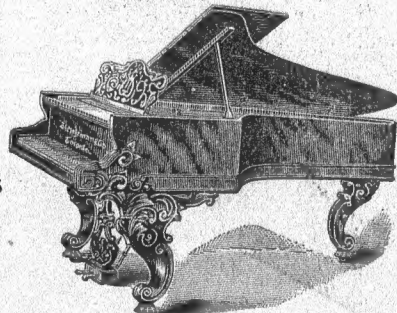
AWAY AT THE FRONT! All honor to Our Noble Boys, who have so bravely offered themselves to their country, prepared to do or die in defence of its integrity and so in like manner we say, all honor to

BRUCE, "THE PHOTOGRAPHER."

who is, and always has been at the FRONT in the ART, where he intends to stay, prepared to offer his best services to his country, men, women and children, who will find him "READY, AYE, READY," at 118 King St. West.

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bright and restless. He speaks very rapidly, and much after the manner of French Canadians, a superabundance of gesture being a noticeable feature both in his conversation and his "oratory." He was born in the Red River Settlement, but when a mere boy he was sent under the patronage of Bishop Tache to one of the Catholic colleges in Montreal, where he completed his education. It is said that at one time he intended studying for the priesthood, but afterwards changed his mind. His powers as a public speaker were noted and favorably commented on while he was at college. During his earlier days he spent his time much as the other young men of his race used to do in that country in those days, which means a little farming and a good deal of buffalo hunting. It was not until the autumn of 1869 that Riel came prominently before the public. His first act of rebellion was when Col. Dennis and his surveyors were running a base line through the property of some of the anti-Canadian party. Mr. Webb and his men were running the line when Riel, followed by a party of unarmed half-breeds, put his foot on the chain they were using and ordered them to quit work. They took his advice and retired, and he next figures in the history of that insurrection as leader of the party of malcontents who had erected the barrier on the Pembina trail at Rivière Salle on the 21st of October, 1869, against the entrance of Lieut.-Gov. Macdougall. Here the Red River Rebellion began to take a definite shape and to assume alarming proportions. At this time John Bruce or Brouse was president and Louis Riel secretary of the insurgent party, but as a matter of fact Riel was all along the real leader of the movement, or at least the real leader so far as that functionary was ever known to the general public.

THE LOYALIST LEADER.

Major-General Middleton, who has had military directions of the campaign against Riel, is commander of the militia of Canada. He first became known in Canada at the time of the Trent affair, as a major in the 29th regiment. He served ten years on the staff of General Windham, and was afterwards appointed commandant of the Royal Military College. He has seen active service in New Zealand and India, and was engaged in the Sepoy mutiny of 1857-58. At the siege of Lucknow he was A.D.C. to General Luard, and his gallant conduct there gained him the brevet of "Major."

He was time and again specially mentioned in "Home Despatches" during that mutiny, and has received the order of C.B. He was recommended to Lord Clyde for the Victoria Cross for two notable acts of victory. General Middleton was appointed to the command of the Canadian militia last year.

THE FIRST BATTLE.

WEDNESDAY, March 25th.—Major Crozier, with one hundred men, comprising mounted police and volunteers from Prince Albert, while proceeding from Fort Carleton to Duck Lake, some ten miles distant, to regain possession of some supplies which had been surrounded there, and which the rebels had seized at the first outbreak, came in contact with 200 rebel half-breeds, who endeavoured to surround Crozier's force, probably with the intention of taking them prisoners. Not succeeding in this they fired a volley which was replied to by Crozier's men. The firing lasted some time when Crozier, finding his men far outnumbered, retreated to Fort Carleton, not however, without serious loss, twelve loyalists being killed and eleven wounded. The policemen and civilians acted with the greatest bravery under heavy fire.

KILLED.

REGIMENT—

CONSTABLE T. J. GIBSON.
CONSTABLE G. P. ARNOLD.

CIVILIANS—

CAPT. JOHN MERITON.
W. NAPIER, a notary public of Prince Albert.
JAMES BAKELY.
S. NAPIER ELLIOTT, a lawyer, nephew of Judge Elliott, of London, and of Hon. Ed. Blake.
ROBERT MIDDLETON.
D. MACKENZIE.
D. McPHAIL, a hardware merchant from Aylmer, Quebec.
CHARLES NEWITT, a carpenter from Ontario.
JOSEPH ANDERSON.
ALEXANDER FISHER.

WOUNDED.

CIVILIANS—

CAPT. MOORE (leg broken) saw-mill owner, Prince Albert.
A. MACNAB.
W. R. MARKLEY, a general storekeeper from Ontario.
ALEXANDER STEWART, from Nova Scotia.

MOUNTED POLICE—

INSPECTOR J. HOWE.
CORPORAL GICHRIST.
CONSTABLE GARRETT.
S. F. GORDON, brother-in-law of Mr. Fulcr, at one time editor of the Kingston Whig.
A. W. SMITH.
J. J. MOORE.
A. MILLER.

A later dispatch states that the firing was begun by the rebels while Major Crozier was holding a parley with them under a flag of truce. The rebels are reported to have lost 47 killed and wounded. The cannon of the Mounted Police rendered effective service in covering the retreat to Fort Carleton. But for them inevitable disaster would have followed.

Col. Irvine decided to abandon the fort at Carleton and remove to Prince Albert. Fort Carleton is not defensible, on account of being on the river flat, dominated by a high hill, from which the rebels could fire into it. The situation at Prince Albert is advantageous for defence, and the settlers there also needed protection. Before leaving Carleton, the police destroyed all the stores there, and the fort was set on fire by Irvine's orders to prevent falling into the rebels' hands.

A half-breed reports that when Irvine and Crozier retired to Prince Albert, Riel followed and the half-breed is quite certain another engagement took place.

THE SACKING OF BATTLEFORD.

A despatch from Battleford on March 30th said that Poundmaker, the powerful Chief of the Cree Indians, was concentrating his tribes in large numbers in Battleford, 500 strong, more coming in all the time, threatening to burn the town and take possession of the stores and barracks. All the women and children were hurried into the barracks, and all the men enrolled for service, and arms and ammunition issued to them. Nearly all the police have been withdrawn to Prince Albert, and the supply of arms is limited. It is believed the barracks can be defended against the Indians if they should make an attack.

Advices from Battleford, on the 31st, show that the situation is getting worse. The half-breeds and Indians were plundering the stores. Mr. McKay and the Indian agent ventured out of the barracks and remonstrated with them and were fired upon. The men in the barracks think they can hold out until relieved. They have provisions for a month. The Stony Indians have joined the others and killed James Payne and Geo. E. Applegarth, Indian instructors, and two settlers. The buildings on the south side have been burned, including the Hudson Bay Company's stores, the Industrial Buildings and Government Buildings. Colonel Herchener has left Regina for Battleford, via Swift Current, with 70 mounted police and one cannon; he can reach there in six days if not interrupted. It is feared the half-breeds from Duck Lake will come to Battleford and cut off all communication and probably interrupt Herchener. The Indians from Fort Pitt District between Battleford and Edmonton are likely to join these at Battleford. The wires are still broken between Battleford and Edmonton.

The population of Battleford is not more than 600, about one-half of whom are white. There are some good farms in the neighbourhood. On the north shore from the town is a large stock and dairy farm, owned by two ex-mounted policemen. It is surmised that they may be the two settlers killed in the skirmish yesterday.

WINNIPEG, April 1st.—Three bands of Crees are now encamped on the south side of Battleford, and these expect that Big Bear's bands and the Fort Pitt Indians will join them. A family who left Batoche the day of the fight at Duck Lake say that things are pretty serious, and that Big Bear and Beady, with 1,000 armed warriors, are with Riel. All the settlers were ordered to stay on their farms or take up arms on pain of death. Among the prisoners held by the rebels are George and John Kerr, and Baker, of Walker & Baker, operator Thomson, and Postmaster Mitchell of Duck Lake, together with a lot of freighters, whose freight was confiscated. The rebels refused to let the mail go out, and threaten to shoot the carriers. Some settlers coming into Battleford were robbed of their horses, wagons and loads. Others are coming in from the settlements in a destitute condition. Half-breeds are going towards Clarke's Crossing to cut the telegraph wires to Battleford.

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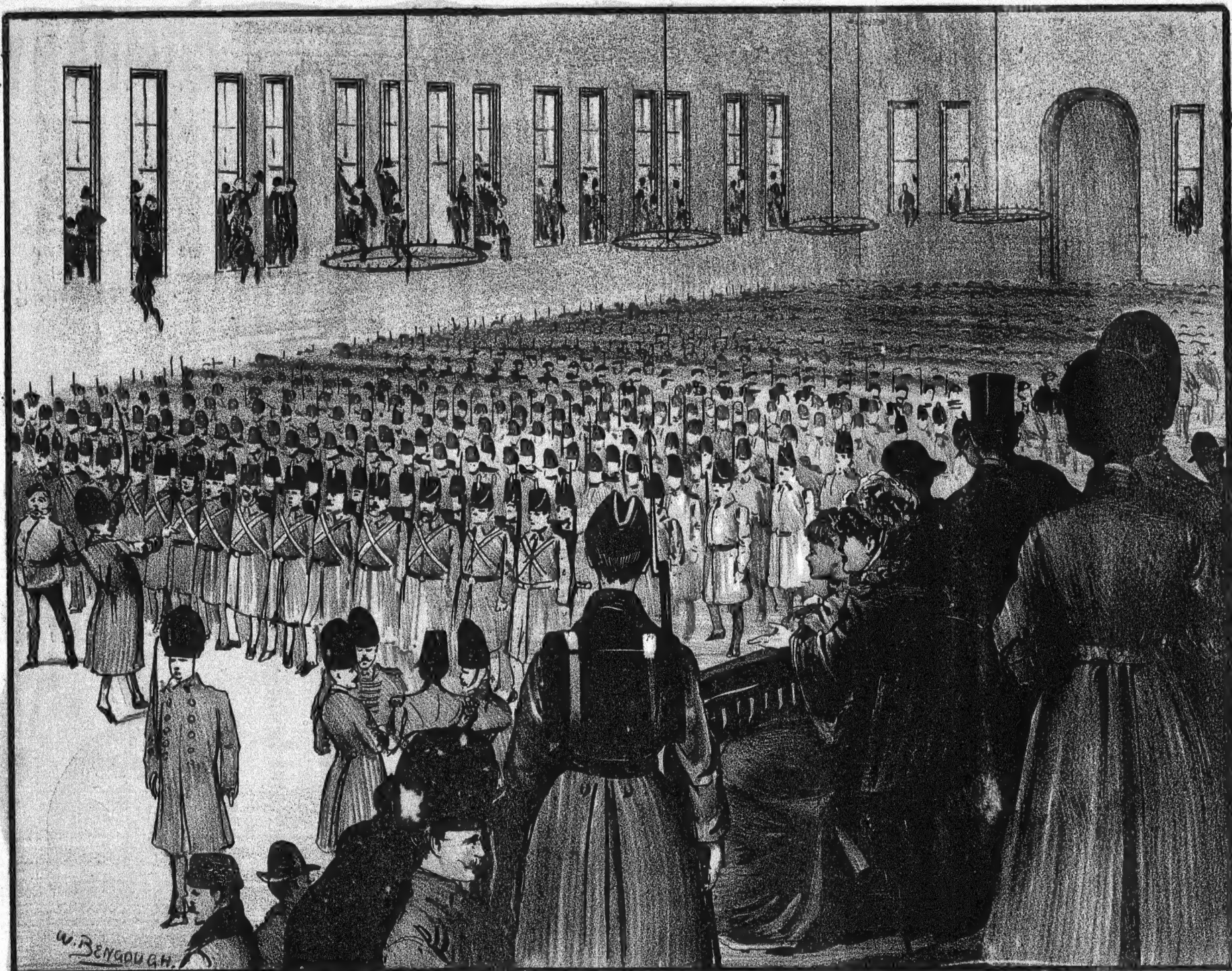
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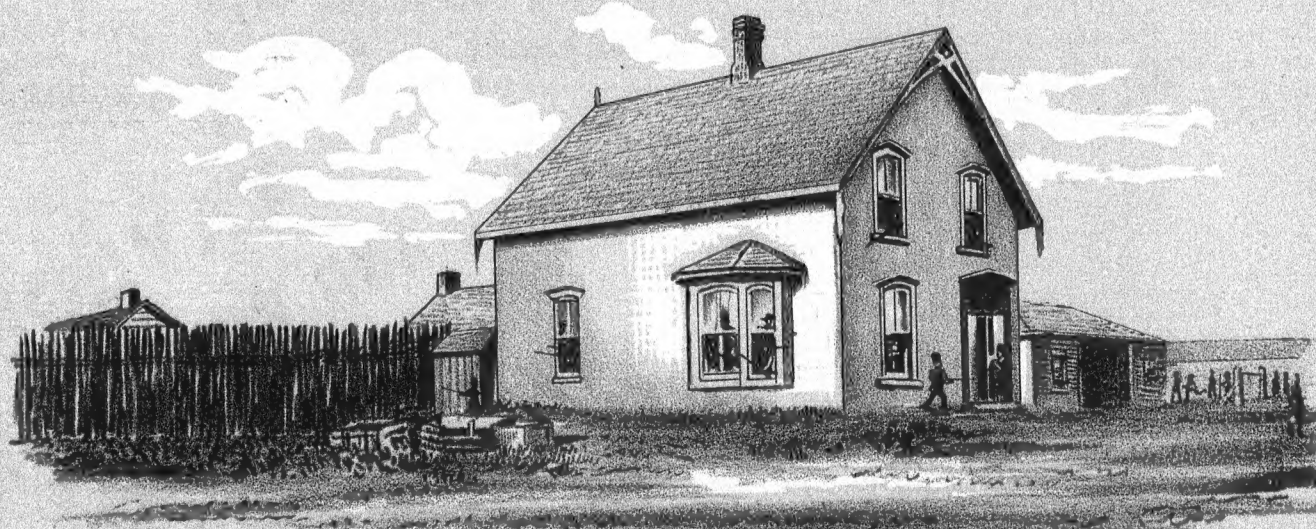
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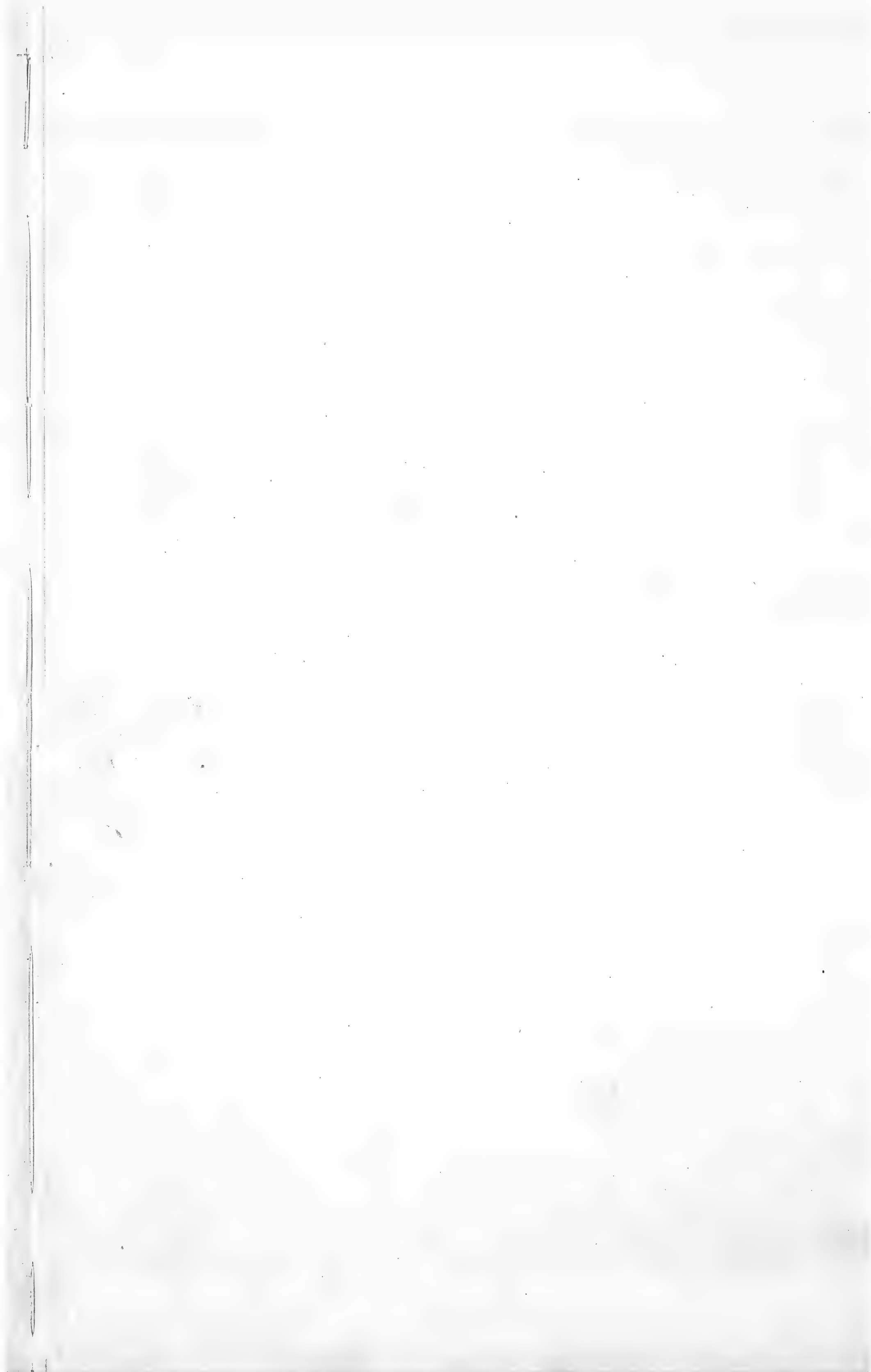
THE MUSTER OF THE TENTH ROYALS AND QUEEN'S OWN AT THE
DRILL SHED, TORONTO, SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH.



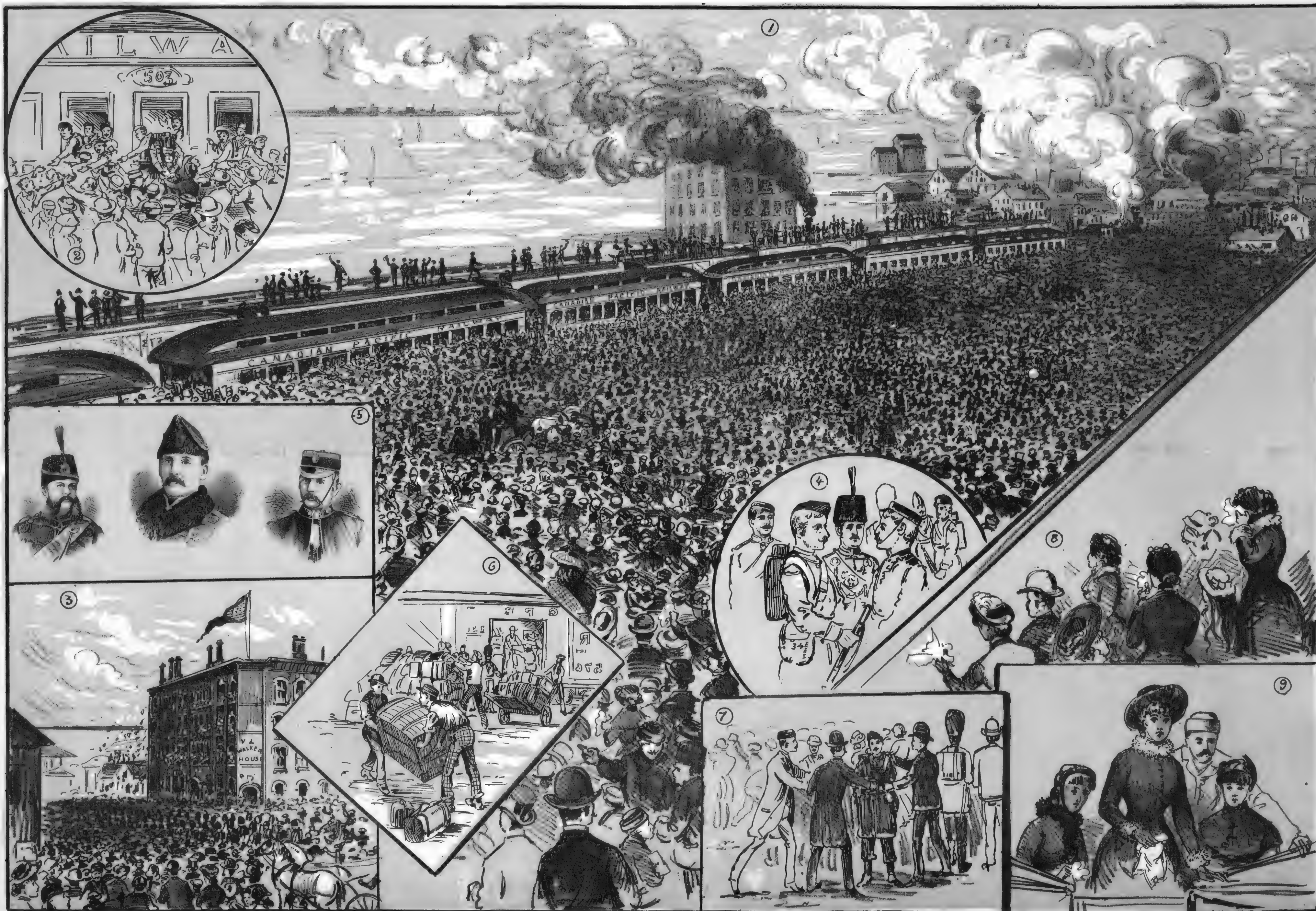
THE FORT AT BATTLEFORD IN WHICH THE MOUNTED POLICE AND
CITIZENS TOOK SHELTER AND WERE BESEIGED BY THE REBELS.



THE TOWN OF BATTLEFORD, OCCUPIED BY THE REBELS AND INDIANS
MARCH 30TH.

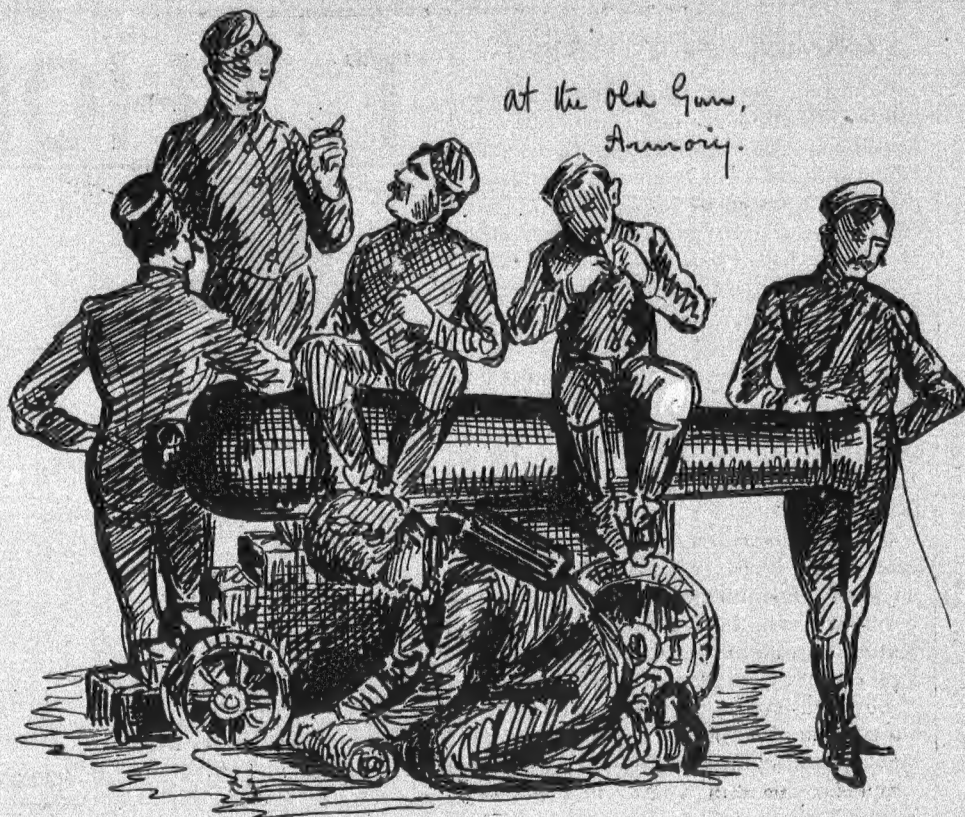


TORONTO, APRIL 4TH, 1885.



THE DEPARTURE OF THE "QUEEN'S OWN" AND "TENTH ROYALS" FOR THE NORTH-WEST, MARCH 30TH.

- 1.—Scene at the Union Station. 2.—The Last Kiss. 3.—Shower of Bouquets at the Walker House. 4.—Discussing the Situation. 5.—Colonels Otter, Miller and Grasset. 6.—Loading Baggage Cars. 7.—"Good-Bye, Old Fellow!" 8.—Left Behind. 9.—The Last Glimpse.



PLAN OF MILITARY OPERATIONS.

QU'APPELLE, April 1.—The reports of rebels having field pieces are untrue. Riel at present has between 1,500 and 2,000 men. The rebels seize all inward mail matter. Qu'Appelle half-breeds are quiet, but show a tendency to approve of Riel's action. The Blood and Flathead Indians have a great opinion of Riel. It is reported that emissaries say the troops coming from Winnipeg will be attacked at Touchwood. It is intended to make Touchwood Hills the forward base of supplies and hauling north of Fort Qu'Appelle. It is calculated to have 200 loads at Touchwood by Thursday. There is no word yet of the start of the troops. Gen. Middleton told a correspondent that he did not know when he would start. He said that Riel could not have chosen a worse time for the expedition. The General is greatly excited about crossing the river. From what he said it is evident he will not commence his march until all the troops arrive. He stated emphatically he intended to get the troops now at the fort through. He will move to Touchwood on Friday, and the troops here will move to Fort Qu'Appelle.

THE UPRISING AT PILE HILLS.

A despatch from Qu'Appelle on 30th inst. reported an outbreak of the Indians in the File Hill Reserve, 30 miles north-west of Fort Qu'Appelle. Gen. Middleton having ascertained that 300 had joined the rebel movement there and killed the Indian agent, Nichols, sent forward to that point three companies of the 90th Rifles (Winnipeg), under command of Col. Houghton and Major Buchan, together with one gun and a portion of the field battery. The File Hills are close upon the Pheasant Plains, and the reserve must be in close proximity to the white settlers on every side.

J. Nichols was sent to File Hills as Government Farm Instructor some years ago. His relatives reside in Carleton County, Ontario.

Up to the end of last year, nothing had occurred to indicate that Nichols was otherwise than well liked by the members of the four bands under his charge. At Indian Head, which is within striking distance of File Hills, Piapot has a band of 500 Crees, well mounted and well armed, and it will surprise no one who knows Piapot to learn that he has also raised the standard of rebellion. There are in Treaty No. 4 over 7,000 Indians, and now the trouble has begun among them, a large proportion of the 5,000 Crees and Saulteaux may openly ally themselves with the malcontents. The Indians in this treaty are the most enlightened and civilized in the territory.

DISCUSSIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

On the 26th March, in answer to a question by Mr. Casey, Sir Hector Langevin said that Riel had not been in the employ of the Government during the past year, and was not at that date.

In answer to Mr. Blake, Sir John Macdonald said:—"We are quite unaware of the proximate causes of the half-breed rising under Riel. Riel came into the country invited by them (the half-breeds) some time ago. I believe he came for the purpose of attempting to extract money from the public purse. We received intimation last summer that if the Government would give him a sum of money, the sum of \$5,000 was mentioned, he would withdraw. This proposition, of course, could not be entertained for a moment. He remained there inciting the half-breeds and attempting to rouse the Indians, by telling them the country belonged to them. The statement has been made that Riel was told he was an outlaw and not a British subject, and had no right in the country. Such an intimation was never made so far as I know. He was considered, on account of the former occurrences, a sort of martyr in the cause, and a sort of half-breed 'Mahdi'; and looked up to with a superstitious regard. He acts upon the feeling of these poor people. I do not believe there is the slightest danger from the half-breeds unless they should be joined by the Indians."

Mr. Robertson, of Hastings, asked whether Gatling guns had been provided for our troops. He believed that 100 shots per minute could be fired by them. Hon. Mr. Caron, Minister of Militia, said in answer to the Hon. gentleman—"I may say that Gatlings have been ordered. I think every possible precaution has been taken in regard to arming the troops and forwarding them as rapidly as possible to where they are required."

In answer to Mr. Gault, Mr. Caron said—"We have furnished very good arms to the men now sent to the front, and we shall serve out to all who go the very best arms we can procure, considering the short notice upon which we were called upon."

THE LATEST NEWS.

WINNIPEG, April 1.—Nearly all the Saskatchewan Indians are ready for pillage and bloodshed. The Battleford people are still safe in barracks. The Indians have suddenly gone off in a western direction. They are not expected to stay away long, and are probably plundering the deserted farms near by. Col. Herchmer left Regina to-day for the relief of Battleford with forty men and two field guns. A. McDonald proposed to raise 100 volunteers to go with Herchmer, but his brother in Battleford advised him that it was no use, as the force could not get through. It is feared that Herchmer will have little chance to reach Battleford. The worst fears are entertained for Fort Pitt, as only twenty-five police and a few soldiers are there, and nothing has been heard from them for several days. Communication is still cut off with Prince Albert, but it is thought that settlement is safe. The Hudson Bay Company's agent at Battleford went out this morning to secure stores across the Battle River. Four rebels were loading a cart and buckboard, and under cover of the cannon the agent captured the buckboard and wounded one man. The agent found the stock badly scattered, and removed what was left to the barracks.

Lieut.-Gov. Dewdney is again at Fort Qu'Appelle in consultation with Gen. Middleton. The Sioux Indians at Oak Lake, west of Brandon, are contented and loyal, and can be enrolled on the Government side. The half-breeds, on the contrary, would assist Riel but for the military. The mail route between Swift Current and Battleford cannot be opened. Big Bear's band and the Fort Pitt Indians have joined Riel. Montana half-breeds are also said to be taking part in the movement. Father Le Breton, of the Fort Qu'Appelle mission, says between 7,000 and 10,000 well-armed troops will be required to suppress the rebellion. Many settlers at Saskatoon and other places have abandoned their homesteads, leaving everything to the Indians, who plunder and destroy everything in their path. Settlers arriving at Fort Qu'Appelle, from the north, report that their path at night was lit up at stretches with the burning barns and houses. The Indian insurrection is much more serious than the half-breed rising, on account of their desperate condition, their motives being starvation, love of plunder, and revenge on deceitful Government agents. All the repeating rifles and ammunition in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Fargo and other points have been sent for by the Government.

The burning and sacking of the town of Battleford by the Crees is confirmed. The half-breeds around Duck Lake are expected to join in the attack upon the barracks to be made under the immediate direction of Pound-Maker. Three bands of Crees are now encamped on the south side of Battleford, and it is expected that Big Bear's band and the Fort Pitt Indians, numbering 800 warriors, will join them, the meeting-place being the scene of last summer's conflict with the police.

QU'APPELLE, April 1.—It is estimated that Riel has now between fifteen hundred and two thousand men at his command. They are generally well-armed, but the report that they have field pieces is untrue. It is undoubted that he is receiving aid from the other side, as some men have been seen with him who are not half-breeds, Indians or settlers, but are strangers, entirely unacquainted with the country. It is also rumored that he has received a consignment of dynamite, but it is considered extremely improbable, as it is difficult to understand to what use he could put it. Emissaries from the north say the troops coming from Winnipeg will be attacked at Touchwood. Gen. Middleton expects to move to Touchwood on Friday, but he will not make any important aggressive movement until he can muster about 1,500 men.

A courier reports Prince Albert entirely surrounded, and Col. Irvine and Major Crozier with the police hemmed in by a vastly superior force. The runner brought a request for doctors, and a party left this morning for there with Doctor Dodd, who is confident, by the aid of scouts that he will take with him, of being able to get through.

The Touchwood Indians to the north of here are greatly excited, and it is feared that they will harass the troops on their progress north.

It is very cold, but fine. Gen. Middleton is evidently not enamored of the climate, and has no relish for penetrating further into the precincts of the north pole.

The gloomy news from Battleford has excited troops here so that they clamor for a

T. THOMPSON & SON



Because Scott loved his country,
Nor would to rebels bow,
He was butchered at Fort Garry,
Kneeling on the snow,
Which blushed that sad March morning
For the British soil below.

That day, almost forgotten,
Now called to mind again,
Can never be forgiven
Till his murderers are slain;—
Till the rebel Riel is taken
And the land's at peace again.

Ontario, the first province,
As quick to act as feel,
Speaks, and a thousand soldiers
With batteries of steel
Make haste to cross the prairie,
And crush the monster Riel.

Our red hot wrath has fused us,
And made our people ONE;
And, on the cloud, the rainbow
Reflects the rising sun.
We stand to-day UNITED,
Who—who will lead us on?

The Mammoth feels uneasy,
Through all his mighty frame;
Our vacillating statesmen
Disgrace our country's name.
They make our burdens heavier,
While they glory in their shame.

Go, ministers of vengeance,
In panoply of right;
Ontario's heart and body
Trembles with joy to fight;
While the tyrant's victims weary
To see your bayonets' light.

Hoard every drop of anger,
Nor waste a single sup,
Until that double murderer
Is made to drink it up.
To his own lips his malice
Commend—and hold the cup.

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Fine Spring Overcoat for \$2.90.

OUR COLORED WORSTED RAINBOW SUIT FOR \$15!

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speedy advance to the relief of the beleaguered garrison.

It is proposed by Gen. Middleton to bridge the South Saskatchewan at Clarke's crossing to permit of the passage of troops, that stream being now open.

WINNIPEG, April 1.—Capt. Nash has a company on patrol at the Emerson frontier keeping a sharp lookout for suspicious visitors. A secret meeting was held in Pembina on Monday, and yesterday morning small green badges with a skull and crossbones on were found in several houses in St. Vincent and Pembina. Detective O'Keef, who came up from St. Paul last night, reports that twenty men got off the up train at Stephen. The United States commander at Fort Pembina has orders to guard the frontier and prevent fenians or other parties who may mean mischief from crossing the border.

CHICAGO, April 1.—The excitement over the insurrection in Manitoba is said to have aroused the Canadian residents of this city. To the number of about 150, they are reported to have tendered their services to the government at Ottawa, asking to be allowed to proceed at once to Winnipeg to assist in putting down the rebellion.

OTTAWA, April 1.—The air is full of rumours to-night as to the state of affairs in the North-west, and the impression prevails that the Government have received bad news. The general report is that a massacre of settlers around Battleford, by the Indians, has been going on, and it is further stated that the barracks at that place have been burned, and that the garrison are at the mercy of the redskins. The Government say they have received no information, and that they do not believe the reports that are being circulated. The Ottawa Government has sent in all three thousand stand of arms via Chicago to Winnipeg.

In the House of Commons to-day Sir John Macdonald said the official news from the North-west had not changed the general aspect of affairs from what was communicated yesterday. The Indians had retired from Battleford, a distance of about twelve miles, to hold a feast, taking with them a number of cattle and horses and pillage from the houses.

Mr. Blake put a number of questions to the Government about the movement of troops and the means of communication. He also wished to know if this Government had communicated with the Government at Washington in regard to the transport of ammunition and stores through via Chicago, and why troops were not also sent by this route.

Sir John Macdonald replied that his Government had not communicated with the Government of the United States on the subject.

A TABLE OF DISTANCES.

TRAIL DISTANCES.

	MILES.
Qu'Appelle to Fort Qu'Appelle	19
Fort Qu'Appelle to Touchwood hills	46
Touchwood hills to Humboldt	81
Humboldt to Carleton, via Gabriel's Crossing	82
Humboldt to Carleton, via Batoche's Crossing	83
Prince Albert to Batoche's Crossing	43
Prince Albert to Carleton	49
Qu'Appelle to Clarke's Crossing	196
Qu'Appelle to Battleford	281
Clarke's Crossing to Prince Albert	81

DISTANCES FROM WINNIPEG.

	MILES.
Fort Ellice	220
Fort Qu'Appelle	337
Swan River barracks, via Fort Ellice	337
Touchwood hills	372
Humboldt	453
Fort Carleton	536
Battleford, via Gabriel's	628

The telegraph line runs from Qu'Appelle through Touchwood and Humboldt to Clarke's Crossing, and thence on to Battleford and Edmonton. From Clarke's Crossing a branch runs to Prince Albert.

	MILES.
Winnipeg to Prince Albert	600
do to Regina, via C. P. R.	356
Qu'Appelle to Regina, via C. P. R.	32
Clarke's Crossing to Battleford	85
do do to Edmonton	346
Swift Current to Battleford	190
do to Fort Carleton	210

A TRUE MOTHER.—The mother of one young man to go to the north, remarked:—"I was never willing to have my son go out for mere holiday show, but when the country calls I am willing that he should be the first to respond to that call."

ITEMS AND INCIDENTS.

THE Government have ordered 225,000 pounds of canned meat to be shipped to Winnipeg from Chicago.

WHILE the Toronto troops were marching along King Street on the way to the station, an elderly woman was observed to scan the countenances of the men as they passed along. All at once her face lit up, and darting forward, she tightly embraced a young fellow, evidently her son, and kissed him passionately.

A YOUNG man, writing under date March 19, to his parents in this city, states that Riel told him that the Indians never had a desire to fight with the Imperial Government, and this was the reason they abandoned Fort Garry.

IT is stated by a keeper of the Beauport Asylum that Riel was hiding in that Institution for two years feigning insanity.

THE volunteers from Ontario and Quebec were furnished, at the expense of the respective municipalities, with warm underclothing, boots, etc.

MESSRS. LYMAN & Co. have furnished supplies of medicine for the soldiers.

OPINION is somewhat divided as to the relative merits of the Winchester repeating rifles and the Snider-Enfield. In a pitch battle at short range the Winchester would be the more deadly, but they do not seem to expect this, and in a skirmish, where the men to a great extent would be under cover, the Snider would be a sufficiently rapid lead-pumper to do all the execution that would be necessary.

THE ubiquitous Life Insurance Agent maintained his reputation by tapping the soldiers on the shoulder at the Union Station and politely asking: "In view of all the hardships and dangers to which you will be exposed, don't you want to get your life insured?"

HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP TACHE says he had a letter from Riel last October, from St. Laurent, saying that he had only come into the country to help his countrymen to get their rights, but that he did not intend to create any trouble. The only object he had in view was to assist his friends. The Archbishop replied, telling him that the only way to get satisfaction was by constitutional means and by making the necessary representations in the proper manner to the proper authorities. Riel did not reply. The Archbishop said that among other items the half-breeds wanted indemnity to Riel for his being banished by the Dominion Government. His Grace said that the half-breeds are naturally not inclined to bloodshed, but that when once excited are not easily controlled.

THE people are organizing in every town and village of Manitoba, and clamoring for arms. In Winnipeg two regiments more are nearly fully organized. Fear as to the half-breeds and Indians of the Province raising trouble have been allayed by the clergy answering a pastoral from His Grace the Archbishop counselling them to peace.

ON the arrival at Carleton Place Junction the detachment from Toronto were treated to a supper at the expense of the municipality.



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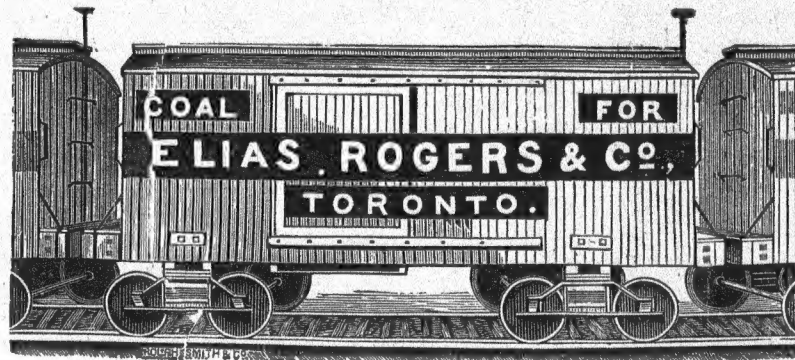
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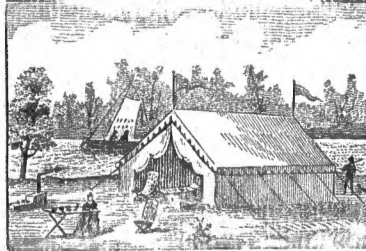
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